

**Senate File 245 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 245  
BY COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 77)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act modifying the supplementary weighting for limited  
2 English proficient students and including effective date and  
3 applicability provisions.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 257.31, subsection 5, paragraph j, Code  
2 2015, is amended to read as follows:

3 *j.* Unusual need to continue providing a program or other  
4 special assistance to non-English speaking pupils after the  
5 expiration of the ~~five-year~~ period of years specified in  
6 section 280.4.

7 Sec. 2. Section 280.4, subsection 3, Code 2015, is amended  
8 to read as follows:

9 3. *a.* In order to provide funds for the excess costs of  
10 instruction of limited English proficient students specified  
11 in paragraph "b" above the costs of instruction of pupils in  
12 a regular curriculum, students identified as limited English  
13 proficient shall be assigned an additional weighting of  
14 ~~twenty-two hundredths~~ three-tenths, and that weighting shall be  
15 included in the weighted enrollment of the school district of  
16 residence for a period not exceeding ~~five~~ the period of years  
17 specified in paragraph "b". However, the school budget review  
18 committee may grant supplemental aid or a modified supplemental  
19 amount to a school district to continue funding a program for  
20 students after the expiration of the ~~five-year~~ specified period  
21 of years.

22 *b.* (1) For students first determined to be limited English  
23 proficient for a budget year beginning on or after July  
24 1, 2010, but before July 1, 2015, the additional weighting  
25 provided under paragraph "a" shall be included in the weighted  
26 enrollment of the school district of residence for a cumulative  
27 period of time not exceeding five years beginning with the  
28 budget year for which the student was first determined to be  
29 limited English proficient. The five years of eligibility  
30 for the additional weighting need not be consecutive and  
31 a student's eligibility for the additional weighting is  
32 transferable to another district of residence.

33 (2) For students first determined to be limited English  
34 proficient for the budget year beginning on July 1, 2015, the  
35 additional weighting provided under paragraph "a" shall be

1 included in the weighted enrollment of the school district of  
2 residence for a period not exceeding six years beginning with  
3 the budget year for which the student was first determined to  
4 be limited English proficient.

5 (3) For students first determined to be limited English  
6 proficient for a budget year beginning on or after July 1,  
7 2016, the additional weighting provided under paragraph "a"  
8 shall be included in the weighted enrollment of the school  
9 district of residence for a period not exceeding seven years  
10 beginning with the budget year for which the student was first  
11 determined to be limited English proficient.

12 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. This Act, being deemed of  
13 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

14 Sec. 4. APPLICABILITY. This Act applies to school budget  
15 years beginning on or after July 1, 2015.

16 EXPLANATION

17 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
18 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

19 This bill relates to limited English proficient education  
20 by modifying the supplementary weighting for limited English  
21 proficient students.

22 Current Code section 280.4 provides supplementary weighting  
23 for the excess costs of instruction of limited English  
24 proficient students. The current amount of the supplementary  
25 weighting for students identified as limited English proficient  
26 is 0.22 per student. The weighting is provided for those  
27 students first determined to be limited English proficient for  
28 a budget year beginning on or after July 1, 2010, and may be  
29 included in the weighted enrollment of the school district for  
30 a period not exceeding five years.

31 The bill increases the amount of the supplementary weighting  
32 for those students identified as limited English proficient to  
33 0.30 per student.

34 The bill also specifies the number of years during which the  
35 additional weighting may be included in the school district's

1 weighted enrollment. For students first determined to be  
2 limited English proficient for a budget year beginning on or  
3 after July 1, 2010, but before July 1, 2015, the additional  
4 weighting may be included for a period not exceeding five  
5 years. For students first determined to be limited English  
6 proficient for the budget year beginning on July 1, 2015, the  
7 additional weighting may be included for a period not exceeding  
8 six years. For students first determined to be limited English  
9 proficient for a budget year beginning on or after July 1,  
10 2016, the additional weighting may be included for a period not  
11 exceeding seven years.

12 The bill takes effect upon enactment and applies to school  
13 budget years beginning on or after July 1, 2015.